

Message Text

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53

ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-06 TRSE-00 RSC-01 /022 W

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R 111050Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1237

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWIAT

AMEMBASSY THHRAN

USINT BAGHDAD

UNCLAS BEIRUT 13420

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF EXIMBANK CHAIRMAN CASEY

REF: STATE 236130 AND 236095

1. EXIMBANK CHAIRMAN CASEY, ACCOMPANIED BY VICE PRESIDENT MINIKES AND PROJECT OFFICER MORAN, ARRIVED IN BEIRUT NOVEMBER 6 AND DEPARTED FOR CAIRO MORNING NOVEMBER 8. OCCASION PROVIDED CHAIRMAN CASEY WITH OPPORTUNITY TO MEET VARIETY OF MEMBERS LOCAL BUSINESS, BANKING COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING ARAB BANK GENERAL MANAGER SAMI ALAMI WHO HOSTED NOV. 7 LUNCHEON ATTENDED BY APPROXIMATELY TWENTY BANKERS AND BUSINESSMEN. AMONG OTHER ACTIVITIES, CHAIRMAN MET WITH CITIBANK REGIONAL BANAGER ED HOFFMAN AND TEAM OF VISITING BECHTEL EXECUTIVES, INCLUDING FORMER TREASURY SECRETARY GEORGE SHULTZ. AMBASSADOR HOSTED STAG DINNER AT WHICH CROSS-SECTION OF LEBANESE FINANCIAL COMMUNITY AND LEBANESE GOVERNMENT WAS REPRESENTED, INCLUDING GEORGE SAADEH, LEBANESE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS; ELIAS SARKIS, GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK; ELIAS UNCLASSIFIED

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SABA, FORMER MINISTER OF FINANCE; ASAD NASR, GENERAL

MANAGER OF MIDDLE EAST AIRLINES; AND LOCAL MANAGERS
BANK OF AMERICA, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, INTRA
INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AMERICAN EXPRESS MIDDLE EAST
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

2. COMMENT: MEMBERS OF BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL COMMUNITY
VIEWED CASEY VISIT AS WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE
VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST FINANCIAL AND BANKING TOPICS INCLUDING
POSSIBLE EXIMBANK ROLE. EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME ADDITIONAL
VISITS BY CHAIRMAN CASEY AND OTHER OFFICIALS EXIMBANK AS
CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT.
GODLEY

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